









## LITERARY AND ART GOSSETT.

M. Alexandre Gressat, of the Ordre, one of the Imperial Legations of Paris, died recently at Amiens, in the arms of his wife.

Mr. Samuel Bough has been elected a Royal Scottish Academician, in the room of the late Mr. W. Smellie Watson, portrait painter, deceased.

A Strachan Gutenberg Bible (1485-86) has been discovered at Kleinbaitzen, in Saxony. It is in good preservation, printed partly on paper, partly on parchment.

The Liberator Society intend to print and circulate a first edition of 100,000 copies of Mr. Bright's speech at Birmingham, on the relations of the Church with the State.

A proposal has been made to erect a statue to the late Marshal Niel, War Minister of the Emperor Napoleon III., and the originator of the Mobile Guard in France.

The casting of the bronze statue of the work of art for the Maximilian Memorial, to commemorate the late Emperor of Mexico, has just been effected at the Imperial Foundry at Vienna.

A statue of Dr. Wells, the discoverer of anaesthetics, is now the British Medical Journal, to be cast in bronze, in one piece, and set up at Hartford, just as it comes from the mould.

Miss E. H. Hudson, the author of "The Life and Times of Lord, Queen of France," has just published, a detailed history of the second Theatre Français, under the title of "L'Odéon et ses Successeurs."

A wonderful exhibition has been opened at Brussels. It is a collection of about a hundred landscapes of great merit, painted by a boy named Fritz Kerckhoff, of Bruges, who died at an early age.

The first number of a new monthly periodical, the *Illustrated Scotsman and Scottish Review*, will be published in Edinburgh shortly. The title is sufficiently happy at all events, whatever the wit may say.

The death of the German painter Richard Ziemann is announced, at Munich, at the age of fifty-four years. Also, the death of Baron de Schöningh, who was a celebrated German historical painter.

The thirteenth statue of Joan of Arc, which is placed in the Rue de Rivoli, facing the spot where the left wing of the Tuileries stood, has been unveiled, and a new one is to be erected, at a cost of 40,000 francs.

In the *Standard*, Mr. John Crowdy has concluded his analysis of the "Messiah." These notes, which have been published, they would be valuable for those who assist auditors at a performance of Handel's immortal work.

An account of a rare edition of the "De Scholasticis Disputatio" of Boetius, which belonged to William Drummond, of Hawthornden, whose autograph it bears, was published the other day, by Messrs. Schuch, Wilkinson, and Edgar.

A very valuable collection of earthenware, metal work, and other objects of art, collected by Mr. Murdoch Smith, superintendent of the photographic establishment, Perth, has been added to the collection in the South Kensington Museum.

The Government of India has granted one year's additional through to Mr. Talbot, who has been named as the author of the volume of the "History of India." This volume will bring the history down to the rise of British power.

The cottage of John Jay, at Paris, has been announced by a rare book of the celebrated collector. This book is placed in a niche, of which the interior is a gilded mosaic, and on the right and left are two heads, one of Poetry and the other of History.

Among other attractions of the exhibition of Messrs. Agnew & Sons, are four works of Millais. "The North-West Passage" has already been sold to Mr. Folkestone for 4,000 guineas. The compositions "The East and West" and "The East and West" were sold for 7,000 guineas.

The Academy states that we are at last to have a complete edition of the prose works of Wordsworth, which has been long desired to be given to the world by Dr. Wordsworth or Mr. Quinlan. The task has now devolved upon the Rev. A. B. Grosart.

A proposal is being considered to place in Westminster Abbey the spot where Stendhal was buried, as a "musical window," which will serve not only as a memorial of the composer of "The May Queen," but of the other authors who he associated with him.

Mr. George Smith has discovered, among the Assyrian tablets in the British Museum, the legend of the building of the Tower of Babel. This discovery, says the *Illustrated London News*, is quite as important as the tablet relating to the Deluge, made known last year by the same gentleman.

A relic of the times when France and England were under one rule has been found at Norwich Guildhall. It consists of an ancient bushel measure of bell-metal, very heavy, and resembling a cauldron, and bearing the inscription in French of Henry VII., by the grace of God King of England and France.

An autograph of Babel's elder has been recently sold by auction. It was a receipt, in Babel's handwriting, for thirty-two gold crowns, received in London, in 1846, for medical services to Monsieur du Bellay, the receipt being written in quaint old French, and with Babel's signature in Latin. "In the Babelian manuscript." The autograph sold for £42.

Mr. Clodd, the author of "The Childhood of the World," will shortly publish, through Messrs. Henry Colburn & Co., a new work, entitled "The Childhood of Religion." The former book is in course of translation into several of the languages of Europe and the East, and has recently been embodied by the Society for Promoting Cheap Literature for the Blind.

Another stained-glass window has been placed in the Guildhall, of very handsome design, illustrating points of historic interest connected with the Corporation of London. The subject is taken from the reign of Charles II., who, failing to obtain money from his Parliament, had recourse to the taxation of heavy fines on the citizens, under the most frivolous pretences.

Active steps are being taken for the erection at Haddington, N.B., of a memorial to John Knox, the Scottish reformer. In view of the services rendered by Knox to the cause of education, and his having himself been educated at the Burgh School of Haddington, it is proposed that the memorial should take the shape of a school of a high class, having barracks tenable at the Scotch Universities, attached.

After the tribute that has been paid to Stendhal, Bennett, the tablet to the memory of Babel, who is buried in Kensal Green, will, doubtless, be placed in Westminster Abbey. A memorial, signed by the leading professors and amateurs, has been placed in the hands of Dean Stanley, asking for permission to place in the Abbey this tablet to the memory of the reformer, for nearly thirty years a faithful English opera in this country.

The establishment of 1875, which will be held in Westminster, promises to be the greatest ever held. From 1850 to 1890, it offered prizes for competition in poetry, prose, music, and art. The inhabitants have encouraged the project by raising a guarantee fund of £20,000, and no established has ever been known to have enlisted so much the co-operation of the nobility and gentry. An exhibition of works of art, &c., is to be held in connection with the establishment.

The proceeds from the sale of the famous Marillo, "Infant Jesus" appearing to St. Anthony, out of a year since from the picture, were sold for £1,000, a curiosity story in Broadway, where it was found, as a piece of a genuine Marillo, by two Spaniards, one of whom represented himself as a painter, and the other as a collector.

The picture was shown by the Spanish Consul General, who bought it for his Government, for 250,000, and it is now on its way to Spain to be restored, as well as it can be, to the rest of the picture from which it had been severed.

The Gog and Magog, who live for so many years past, struck the hours and quarters, in front of Sir John Bennett's famous clock containing London, and cockney and country-coming no longer have the opportunity of gazing at them as one of the sights of the metropolis.

New figures of a "striking" character, will, however, be set up in the Strand, and Magog have been sold to a hotelman, and are going into the country for a change of air and scene; but they will still continue their accustomed clock-work labor at their new home.

## DISSEMINATED ORANGES.

Lovers of the orange, for several years past, noticed the peculiar discoloration on the rind of the Louisiana oranges, and have doubtless observed that it seems to be gradually on the increase. This discoloration, it appears, is a disease, which only attacks, however, the outer skin of the fruit, the inside portion of the orange remaining as pure and golden as ever. It was first noticed upon the Havana oranges, about eight years ago, but does not have report that the oranges from the island are rapidly being free from the disease. The Louisiana fruit was first attacked with this peculiar discoloration about four years ago, the discoloration soon first manifesting itself in Blaquiere's Parish, since which time it has been gradually working upriver, and over into the Lafourche and Tchebouche districts. It is probable that the disease may continue in certain portions of our State for years to come—but it is to say that in those portions where it has just made its appearance, it will very likely remain for several years. Upon those plantations where the disease first appeared, the fruit this season ripened almost entirely free from it.—*New Orleans Picayune*.

## OLIVE CULTIVATION IN ZANZIBAR.

A special kind of olive—namely, those from Zanzibar—are an important commodity in the London market. It is known that two years ago, in that island, and consequently to raise the price of olive in England. There is, however, in that island, and rather on the edge, which are the fruit, or rather cut of envelope, of the unopened flowers—grow on trees from 15 ft. to 40 ft. high, and it is not considered likely that they will ever be cultivated in any great quantity in Zanzibar in 1880, mainly through the instrumentality of the French Government. The island of Zanzibar, which is now a French colony, has a population of 6,000,000 of olive have on the average been exported, at between 10 and 15 million per annum. The value of this product has been estimated at between 10 and 15 million per annum. This value has, however, seemingly been somewhat depreciated of late. Now that the recent hurricane has wrought such havoc in Zanzibar, olive, as we have said, are not so plentiful in the market, and holders of large stocks of the article in London are extremely anxious to know when the Zanzibar olive-tree will begin to bear again. We believe Dr. Kirt is in this country. He is about the only man at hand who can tender trustworthy information on the subject.

## THE CONFERENCE ON THE USAGES OF WAR.

The Brussels correspondent of the *Pail Mail Gazette* sends the paper the following translation of an article in the *Pail Mail*:—"We have not done with the attitude of England on the subject of the Brussels Conference. The motive put forward in the despatch of Lord Derby to Lord Loftus, of wishing to promote the adoption of national defence, of not wishing to participate in an agreement, 'which would facilitate the means of aggression, and paralyze the patriotic resistance of nations attacked, been insufficiently explained. We have already said how it is with this matter, and Lord Derby knows probably as much about it as we do, for we suppose that he has taken cognizance of the protocols of the Conference. This matter has therefore not been explained with that hypocrisy and generality which one of the prominent features of British policy. To invoke general principle—the desire not to weaken the defence of nations—is the pretext of a great Power animated with upright and humane intentions—this is a bad pretext for which the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Great Britain cannot have the courage of ignorance, like certain statesmen in her first refusal England was satisfied to put forward her interests as a great maritime Power, which forbade her to limit her means of action—of the kind of thing, no doubt, which have directed so many celebrated exploits, the bombardment of Copenhagen among others. That was not chivalrous, but at least frank. 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